

Achievements!

Govan High School

November 2016

Issue No. 26

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BrightHouse



Vampire Mural Competition

Villareal Trip

Govan's Young Workforce

Prestwick Airport Trip

School Captain Elections

HUGE congratulations to Leigh Wingate and Baraka Ali on winning the school captain election. Both pupils will be fantastic role models and representatives both within and outwith the school.

This year it was decided that if any pupil wanted to run for school captain, they had to write a personal statement as to why they should be considered for the role and deliver their own speech to S5 and S6. This method was chosen so that pupils would get a chance to see what it was like having to speak in front of a large audience.

All pupils who submitted their names in for the role then had to speak to both staff and pupils at two separate assemblies. The pupils had to talk about their skills and qualities, why they would be good for the role and what would they bring to the role. All pupils were then asked questions by both staff and pupils on issues that affected them within the school. The most common issue that seems to concern the S6 is a common room. Leigh and Baraka have now made an S6 common room their first priority in their new roles.

The election for school captain this year was a fun and exciting way to get to know all of the candidates who stood for the roles. It was also a fun and exciting way for the candidates to see how important their role is to all pupils within the school. After the result was announced Leigh Wingate said, "This role appealed to me because I am a confident and positive person. I feel approachable to younger pupils and I think they would be able to speak to me."

So, for the rest of the academic year, Leigh and Baraka will be the representatives of the pupils. They will play a role in setting up our forthcoming pupil Parliament and they will also have input into the "Achievements Newsletter" to highlight the work that they will be doing on pupils' behalf throughout the year. By James Beattie, Social Subjects Teacher.



Immunisation Programme

Parents of S2 girls should be aware that their children will receive their second dose of HPV in January or February as it will be a year since the first dose when they gave consent for both. There will also be a catch-up opportunity for S3 – S6 during the same visit from the NHS team.

Scottish Water Group

A group of 10 S2 pupils will be taking part in this year's Scottish Water challenge. They are the first S2 group to ever take part in this challenge and will be competing against other high schools from Glasgow. The group have completed their pre-challenge which allowed them to develop their communication and team work skills. The STEM project we are completing is about the effects of fats, oils and grease going down our sinks. The group will research about this issue and then build a model to show how they would fix the problem and present their final idea to the other schools, important companies and mentors. A busy 10 weeks lie ahead for these pupils!



Coming soon to your school

Watch out for our new and exciting loyalty programme which will be coming to your school very soon. Swipii is an award winning loyalty programme that offers fun rewards and allows you to use a single card or phone app to collect points at local stores.

Employability Skills Day

Every year we hold a big careers event of some kind usually focusing on areas of the job market where employers and SDS predict there will be vacancies and opportunities for school leavers in the near future. This year's event was in September. It was attended by all pupils S3 – S6.

The day began with a working breakfast for presenters and an assembly for S5 and 6. Once workshop presenters were in their various locations throughout the school and pupil groups were allocated, pupils began circulating the workshops and presentations in groups of approximately ten. Every pupil got to participate in four events during the morning. In the afternoon the procedure was repeated with S3 and S4 pupils.

Workshops were facilitated by Morris & Spottiswood and Luddon Construction representing construction trades; Doig & Smith representing large scale project planning; Glasgow City Council Parks & Recreation represented outdoor work and ecological work. The Marriott Hotel represented the hospitality sector. Platinum, the very successful property services business, presented a workshop on personalities. Our

own Pupil Support Assistant Captain Edward Grady ran a workshop on the cadets and carers in uniform. Careers in Youth work was a presentation by Skills Development Scotland and Brighthouse did a workshop on the retail sector. Hairdressing was represented by Rainbow Room International. The NHS provided a workshop about the NHS 24 call centre. STEM subjects featured in several workshops notably those provided by Scottish Water, Prestwick Airport and Glasgow Science Centre.

An extra activity was the media group of S2 and 3 pupils (Craig Brown, Thomas Rankine, Cameron Taylor, David Rice, Lauren Danks, Kelsi McFadden and Declan Sanderson) who worked with producer Gerry Gregory to document events of the day. They spent the day touring the workshops and presentations filming with iPads and doing video interviews with presenters. This material was fed back to Gerry in the "control room" and edited into a video diary of the day. A link to this film was sent to all participating organisations and it is available on YouTube by searching for "Govan High School".



Letter from the headteacher

Welcome to the first Achievement Newsletter for Session 2016-17. We have had a very busy and successful start to the new session as you will see highlighted by the activities and achievements of your young people contained within this edition.

At the start of the session we were able to celebrate the best set of exam results overall that the school has seen in recent years. Increasingly our young people are attaining to the highest level possible. In particular our S6 pupils did really well last session and leave school armed with the qualifications needed to go on and be successful. Our renewed focus on skills development along with our Wider Achievement and Employability Curriculum is helping to ensure that when our young people leave Govan High School they have the qualifications, skills and wider achievements needed to go on into positive destinations.

I am also pleased to share with you a number of staff changes which have allowed us to enhance the curriculum. Drama has been introduced to the curriculum and Dance is back! We have also re-introduced Hospitality and Culinary Excellence, increasing the pathway options for our pupils in the senior phase. As part of these qualifications pupils have the opportunity to gain work experience in the Village Hotel and will later in the session visit Gleneagles Hotel.

Partnership working has always been a real strength of the school and this is something that we are continuing to build on. We have a newly established partnership with the Marriott Hotel and we have put together a really exciting package of events with them which will expose many of our pupils to careers not only in hospitality but also in leisure, front of house and finance to mention only a few.

I hope you enjoy reading about the recent activities and achievements of our young people. I would like to finish by thanking all parents and partners for their continued support.

Warmest wishes and kindest regards

Nancy Belford



We are developing Govan's Young Workforce

One of our main priorities is to develop in our young people a better understanding of the world of work in order to equip them to go on to a positive and sustained destination. It has been a busy and exciting start to the session. Here are just some of the ways we are working with our many partners to enable our young people to prepare themselves for the world of work:

Chloe Stewart is taking part in an Administration work experience placement for the year along at BiP Solutions at Pacific Quay. I received the following comments from her employer:

"Chloe is doing really well, she is a fast learning young person and a great help to the team."

Leigh Wingate aspires to work in Law and spent her October week in DWF Lawyers in Queen Street.

"Leigh has done really well this week, she's had loads to do from lots of different people and different departments and has really got involved. She should be very proud of the way in which she has performed and conducted herself."

Here is just a flavour of some other work placements that pupils are involved in this session:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Jack McNaught

Platinum - Baraka Ali

Glasgow City Council Photography - Kelsey Craig

Pirie Park Primary - Dionne Robinson and Georgia Kennedy

We are delighted to announce that we have formed a new partnership with The Marriott Hotel in Glasgow. We are very excited at becoming a partner with The Marriott who have just recently become the world's largest hotel chain. The opportunities this will afford our young people are immense. Taylor Young, one of our sixth year pupils, has already started a work placement on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at The Marriott Hotel to determine whether he wants to work in HR or Events Management and the experience and advice from staff so far has been invaluable. Watch this space for more fun and exciting events as our pupils from first to sixth year work with The Marriott to get ready for the world of work; Feed a Family for a Fiver, Dragons Den, the recruitment process – from start to finish.

A group of our sixth year have volunteered to work with Jobs and Business Glasgow to work in the after school clubs taking place in our local primaries. This is a brilliant opportunity for our young people who will be excellent role models for our local primary pupils. The sixth year volunteers are Connor Bryans, Meghan Bryans, Rachael Bryans, Emma Crawford, Melissa Rice, Jack Donald, Amber Smith, Dionne Robinson, Georgia Kennedy, Teighan McCrone. Here is a quote from the Jobs and Business Glasgow member of staff who has been working with our pupils when completing their PVGs: "Just wanted to thank you for your assistance with the volunteers and to say how pleased we are that such delightful students are coming along to help."



Five of our fifth year pupils started their 2-year Foundation Apprenticeship studying at Anniesland College on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon and reports from the College are that they are making excellent progress. Josh Robertson is studying Mechanical Engineering and Erin Burke, Kayleigh Gardiner, Liam Meechan and Mariama Gaye are studying Social Services Healthcare.

Our partnerships continue! Six of our young people were successful in gaining entry to the Career Ready Programme: Liam Donnelly (Campbell Dallas accountants), Callum Munro (J P Morgan banking), Stephen Lowrie (Lockheed Martin aerospace), Dylan Sanderson (SSE), Lauren Costick (Glasgow City Council) and Melanie Gilmour (Scottish Water)

Each pupil will be mentored by a volunteer from the above organisations throughout their fifth and sixth year at school as well as taking part in a 4-week paid internship in the summer of 2017.



Criminology Specialist & former pupil Claire Paterfon - 2nd left

Depute Headteacher Sonja Kerr asks:

Can you help us?

Recently, we have had two former pupils come back to talk to classes. Both of them have been inspirational, though neither had done anything like it before. Both of them also went away delighted with the experience and with a warm glow.

So I'd like to ask you, as a former pupil to come back to the school-you'll be made very welcome, and we can target the most appropriate pupils for you to speak to. People of both genders and all walks of life who attended Govan High School always make a strong, lasting and positive impression on current pupils, so please come along and join us!

One of Glasgow – and Govan High's- key priorities this year is "Developing the Young Workforce". Another equally important is "Helping Young People's Achievement"

You can help us with both of these priorities by coming along and assisting our young people to succeed. Whatever your line of work was (or is), your time, encouragement and expertise will be welcome.

Please contact me on 582-0090 or by emailing: skerr@govanhigh.glasgow.sch.uk



Australia exchange 2016

A group of 8 pupils and two members of staff visited our partner school, Mount Gambier High School, in South Australia. After nearly 12 months of fundraising activities, the group set off for an adventure of a lifetime to Australia. We spent a week living in Mount Gambier where we stayed with families of pupils from Mount Gambier High School. During the day we followed their timetables around school. We visited their Dance and Aussie rules Football classes as well as spending lots of time in the technical department. On excursion day we all went to visit the Margaret Rose caves and to the beach, although it was quite cold.

We also visited Melbourne and Sydney and participated in many of the tourist attractions on offer.

Despite bad weather when we arrived in Sydney, we visited the



Aquarium, Wildlife Centre and Madame Tussauds where we got the chance to dress up and pose with the famous waxworks. We learned about the history of Australia at the Sydney Museum and were told all about the first fleet to settle there in 1787. When the weather cleared up we got the chance to climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge and we could view the city. We could see



all the sights and famous places which we had learned about. Later that night we got the chance to visit Sydney Harbour and the Opera House at night. There was a light festival and the whole place was lit up with amazing video images and neon lights. The ships sailing around the Harbour has messages written in lights too.

Our last stop was Melbourne. It was action packed. We visited the Old Goal and were 'arrested'!! As well as going to the Museum of Immigration where we got to pretend to be immigration officers and decide who we would or wouldn't allow into the country. It was really interesting to realise how young Australia is as a country.

Throughout the trip we managed to pack in lots of physical activities, we visited the MCG arena and played Aussie rules, Cricket and Netball, we went Bowling and Ice Skating and finished the trip by watching an AFL game of Aussie rules football. We watched North Melbourne (the Kangaroos) take on Hawthorn (The Hawks). The boys were supporting the Hawks and the girls were cheering for the Kangaroos! Unfortunately the Hawks won!



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Prestwick Airport

On Monday 29th August a group of S2 pupils went to Prestwick Airport for a series of workshops on STEM subjects: Science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This visit was part of the Scottish Air Show schools programme which covered four days with schools from different education authorities attending each day. Monday 29th was the day for Glasgow schools and six schools from Glasgow, including Govan High School, attended. We went with our science teacher, Mrs O'Connor. Mr Sweeney, our Depute Head, came with us and Mr Grady drove the school minibus to get us there and back.

During the day we took part in four different workshops: renewable energy, engineering aerobatics, Life Sciences and looking at different companies in engineering and science.

In the renewable energy workshop we used Lego Mindstorms technology to explore different forms of renewable energy by building cars and racing them. Some groups got to build a car powered by solar energy. Some groups built cars powered by wind energy. Then we raced them to see which went fastest and lasted longest.

In the Aerospace workshop we visited the SKYLAB and studied the principles of science involved in flight that enable engineers to build and control aircraft. We did this by building our own planes and, guided by the engineers, modifying the planes to carry out a series of aerobatic manoeuvres. We got to take our gliders home which was great.

threats. We used a Medipix detector to detect radiation levels during the workshop and compared them with radiation levels when in space.

In the exhibition area we were able to tour lots of different stands and exhibits learning about possible careers in STEM related industries. We visited and talked to exhibitors from The Children's University, Scottish Enterprise, ADS, Skylab, NATS (Air Traffic Control – which was brilliant!) and the University of the West of Scotland lab in a bus. It was a good learning experience and made us aware of opportunities for after school jobs and careers.

All of us thoroughly enjoyed the day out and had the chance to put our STEM skills into practice outside of the classroom. The only thing missing was boarding a flight to a sunny location!

Karalee Freeburn & Kimberley McArthur



In the Life Science workshop we got to be scientists monitoring the health of a space craft crew and detecting contamination. We worked in a lab area to examine air quality, using chromatography and spectrometry to detect and identify volatile organic compounds. We studied bacteria and fungi on surfaces. We took swabs, analysed them and learned how to eradicate





Art News

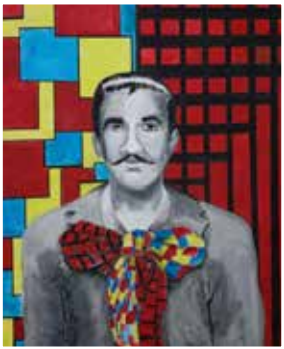
St Enoch Prizegiving For Mackintosh The Innovator

Recently our team of young St Enoch artists attended the prize giving at the centre for the Mackintosh 'The Innovator' competition and we were delighted to hear that Sarah McIver's painting of 'The Hill House' in Helensburgh was awarded 3rd Prize in the Expressive category. The judges were extremely impressed with the team's creative talent, innovative ideas and Govan High's contribution to the overall success of the exhibition, which attracted thousands of visitors over the summer. Thanks to everyone who supported our artists by voting and very well done to everyone involved!



Gorbals Vampire Mural Competition

We were invited by the Edinburgh based marketing company 'Stripe Communications' to take part in their Marvellous Mural competition. The deadline was extremely tight however many of our young artists (as well as our new S1 artists) rose to the challenge and we submitted a great range of entries. The brief was to design a mural suitable for Citizen's Theatre's forthcoming production which tells the story of school children in the 1950s in search of a vampire in the Southern Necropolis in Glasgow! I am sure that you will agree that these designs well and truly suited the theme and very well done to everyone who put in such a great effort to meet the deadline & impress the judges.



Music News

Twenty pupils who receive instrumental tuition at Govan High attended the Glasgow Schools' Symphony Orchestra concert at the City Halls on Friday 16th September. Pupils had the opportunity to hear a variety of music played by S3-6 pupils from Glasgow Secondary Schools. Hopefully some of our young people will apply in the near future. David Rice, S2, conducted the orchestra playing 'Thriller'. The experience was enjoyed by all.

The school band and soloists performed at Dobbie's Garden Centre, Braehead on Thursday 6th October. The pupils played from 5-6pm helping to raise funds for The Teenage Cancer Trust. Solo singers and instrumentalists were Macaulay Graham, Katie McGuffie, Esther Akeju, Mark Docherty, Cameron Paterson, David Rice, Thomas Rankine and Morgan Dundas. The band members are Esther Akeju, Glenn Murphy, Mark Docherty, Alexander Jeffrey, Cameron Taylor, Angelika Rutkowska, Nataniel Bykowski, Morgan Dundas, Rachael Bryans, Rhys Thomson, Lauren Colley, Georgie Kennedy and Ieuan Wall.





SFA School of Football trip to Villarreal

Towards the end of last term two members of staff (Mr Reid and Miss McMillan) and fifteen School of Football pupils travelled to Villarreal for a football development tour. Various external agencies provided funding support to make the cost of the tour more reasonable and the pupils fundraised throughout the year by taking part in many activities including a bucket collection at Ibrox Stadium. Brookfield Multiplex and Central Car Auctions provided sponsorship that allowed us to purchase tracksuits and bags for the tour.

The tour started by traveling to Alicante by plane and then getting a bus to Villarreal. All the pupils were so excited to get started and had their first training session at the Villarreal first team training complex later that evening. The SoF pupils trained twice a day with one morning session and one afternoon session and were challenged both as individuals and as team players.

On Sunday the 8th of May the group attended the La Liga match between Villarreal CF and Deportivo La Coruna. Although Villarreal lost the game 2-0 the pupils really enjoyed the experience of watching the fantastic players on show from one of the best leagues in the world.

The following day after their morning training session pupils were then transferred back to the El Madrigal, Villarreal's stadium for a behind the scenes tour. Pupils were shown the press office, changing rooms and were allowed pitch side to sit in the home and away dugouts. Pupils were given a lot of information on the history of the club and stadium and were given time to ask any questions.

On the final day of the tour pupils were preparing to play a Spanish youth team and the feedback from the group was that this was the favourite part of the tour. Proudly wearing their School of Football training kit Govan High School won 3-1 with goals from Scott Ramsey, Jai Fleming and Josh Campbell.

The pupils were a credit to the school and their behaviour and attitude was first class for the entire educational visit.



Clubs Information

Monday Lunch: Senior Group in Music R. 1 - Woodwind Group in Music R. 2 - Football Pitch Open - S1-3 Basketball - Gym 3 - Trampolining - Gym 1

Monday after School: Boys Fitness - Fitness Suite - Girls Mini Tennis Club – Assembly Hall

Tuesday Lunch: S1-3 Choir in Music R. 1 - S1-3 Bench ball - Gym 3

Tuesday After School: S1 Boys Football (at Toryglen) - Girls Football (at Toryglen) - Swimming Club - Senior Boys Football

Wednesday Lunch: School Band in Music R.2 - S1-3 Badminton - Assembly Hall - Young Ambassador meeting - PE classroom

Wednesday After school: Govan Schools' Pipes and Drums Association School Assembly Hall - Girls Fitness – Fitness Suite

Thursday Lunch: S1 Library Homework Club - Senior Group in Music R.1

Thursday After School: S1 Cupcake Club Home Ec. - S1-3 Basketball Club - S1-4 Dance Club - Senior Performance Badminton - Senior Basketball Team Practice

Friday Lunch: S2 Library Homework Club - S1-3 Choir in Music R.1 - Percussion Group in Music R. 2 - S1 Futsal Club - Gym 3

Friday after School: Higher PE Supported Study



Football Teams

The S1 football team has been in action already this term. They are taking part in a 7-a-side league which is held at Toryglen. The boys are sitting mid-table and enjoying every match.



Sports Leaders

Some of the Sports Leader Level 4 class went to the Emirates arena for a mini tennis taster session during the Davis Cup. They got to meet Liam Broady, a member of the Great British team and ask him questions. They also snuck into a practice session to watch Andy Murray play!

Now we are back at school the girls have set up a mini tennis club, just for girls, to come and play tennis after school. "Miss Hits" runs on Monday from 3-4pm. Great Job girls!



Volleyball

The Sports Leader Level 5 class have been hard at work this term. Not only have they set up a range of lunchtime and after school clubs for the younger pupils in the school to enjoy, but they have participated in training sessions with Scottish Volleyball. Andy from Su Ragazzi Volleyball Club came into school to run these sessions and invited some of our best players to join his club! Andy also awarded the Sports Leaders their level 1 Volleyball Skills Coaching Award. Well done to those awarded: Kristofer Campbell, Kelvin Crawford, Dylan Daly, Kieran Gilogley, Bawan Jamal, Declan Lang, Kai Lung Man, Dylan Sanderson, Lee Spence, Craig Wallis, Alan Wright and Taylor Young



Young Ambassadors 2016

The Young Ambassadors are a group of pupils from S4-6 who are involved in many activities in the PE department. The pupils apply to be part of the programme and are tasked with raising the profile of PE and Sport around the school. So far this term, Young Ambassadors Mark Wallis (S4), Baraka Ali (S6), Jordan Bow (S4), Craig Wallis (S6) and Lee Wright (S4) went to The City Chambers to meet other Young Ambassadors in the city and create partnerships with them and sports organisations.

Kristofer Campbell and Dylan Sanderson (both S5) were selected to attend the Sports Scotland training day at Hampden in September where they received training in Leadership and Communication. They also got the chance to meet Olympic athletes, including swimmer Robbie Renwick who let the boys try on his silver medal from Rio!

